

Listing of the Claims:

CLAIMS

1.-7. (canceled)

8. (currently amended) A method of network management, comprising:  
providing hands-free functionality to each-of a plurality of wireless phones participating in a piconet network, wherein said piconet network is established within a vehicle;  
registering a wireless phone of said plurality of wireless phones, the-registered wireless phone corresponding to an operator of said vehicle;  
receiving a request for access to a wireless hands-free gateway from one of said plurality of wireless phones; and  
providing, by said wireless hands-free gateway, hands-free functionality to said one of said plurality of wireless phones with a priority based on whether said one of said plurality of wireless phones is-the registered wireless phone during operation of said vehicle.

9. (previously presented) The method according to claim 8, further comprising:  
coordinating, by said wireless hands-free gateway, priority of access to an external network for each of said plurality of wireless phones when said piconet network is established within the vehicle.

10. (previously presented) The method according to claim 9, further comprising:  
determining, based on the step of registering, which of a plurality of participants in said piconet network is a current operator of said vehicle.

11. (previously presented) The method according to claim 10, further comprising:  
if said one of said plurality of wireless phones is a registered wireless phone corresponding to the current operator of said vehicle, denying access to any other one of said plurality of wireless phones until said one of said plurality of wireless phones has completed its use of said hands-free functionality.

12. (previously presented) The method according to claim 10, further comprising:  
providing a highest priority for access to said hands-free functionality to each operator of said vehicle.

13. (currently amended) Apparatus for network management, comprising:  
means for providing hands-free functionality to each-of a plurality of wireless phones participating in a piconet network, wherein said piconet network is established within a vehicle;

means for registering a wireless phone of said plurality of wireless phones, the registered wireless phone corresponding to an operator of said vehicle;

means for receiving a request for access to a wireless hands-free gateway from one of said plurality of wireless phones; and

means for providing, by said wireless hands-free gateway, hands-free functionality to said one of said plurality of wireless phones with a priority based on whether said one of said plurality of wireless phones is the registered wireless phone during operation of said vehicle.

14. (previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 13 further comprising:

means for coordinating, by said wireless hands-free gateway, priority of access to an external network for each of said plurality of wireless phones when said piconet network is established within the vehicle.

15. (previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 14, further comprising:

means for determining, based whether said wireless phone is registered, which of a plurality of participants in said piconet network is a current operator of said vehicle.

16. (previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 15, further comprising:

means for denying access to any other one of said plurality of wireless phones until said one of said plurality of wireless phones has completed its use of said hands-free functionality, if said one of said plurality of wireless phones is a registered wireless phone corresponding to the current operator of said vehicle.

17. (previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 15, further comprising:

means for providing a highest priority for access to said hands-free functionality to each operator of said vehicle.

18.-22. (canceled)